

To: Miller, Amy[Miller.Amy@epa.gov]; Jones, Joel E.[Jones.Joel@epa.gov]; Hanf, Lisa[Hanf.Lisa@epa.gov]
From: Johnson, Kathleen
Sent: Thur 4/11/2013 12:23:41 AM
Subject: RE: LA TIMES INQUIRY: Exide

Agree. Joel, please assign someone to work on a draft with nahal, checking in with air as well. Probably good to have amy look at it before it goes final. Thanks.

Kathleen H. Johnson

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From: Miller, Amy
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 5:22 PM
To: Jones, Joel E.; Johnson, Kathleen; Hanf, Lisa
Subject: Fw: LA TIMES INQUIRY: Exide

I suggest joel checks in wIth both air and waste enf group. To make sure there is nothing special going on. I note that it is a topic of upcoming dtsc mtg.

From: Mogharabi, Nahal
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 7:30:35 PM
To: Miller, Amy; Johnson, Kathleen
Cc: Hanf, Lisa
Subject: LA TIMES INQUIRY: Exide

Hello!

I received the below inquiry from a reporter at the LA Times who has been covering Exide. The reporter is asking about the company's history of non-compliance and EPA's role in oversight. She understands that DTSC and AQMD are the lead, but wanted to speak to EPA. Her full inquiry is below.

As you Exide is a high profile case that is garnering a lot of media, public and political interest. I've included some links to some of the recent stories.

LA Times, March 23: Battery recycling plant in Vernon ordered to cut emissions.
<http://articles.latimes.com/2013/mar/23/local/la-me-0324-exide-air-20130324>

LA Times, April 3: L.A. City Council members irate over arsenic emissions.
<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-exide-arsenic-20130404,0,6225898.story>

LA Times (LA Now), April 5: Assembly speaker demands action on Vernon recycling plant.
<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-exide-action-20130405,0,6782428.story>

LAist, April 9: Local Battery Recycler Poses Highest Cancer Risk In Southern California.
http://laist.com/2013/04/09/local_battery_recycler_poses_highest_cancer_risk.php

I think we should move forward with a written statement, rather than an interview as EPA has no active role in this. I spoke with Amy briefly, and I understand we are working with DTSC who is actively looking into this matter.

I was hoping to put together a written response/statement to her questions below. Who should I work with that can draft a response?

Her deadline is Monday.

Many thanks in advance,

Nahal

Nahal Mogharabi

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From: Garrison, Jessica

Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 3:46 PM

To: Mogharabi, Nahal

Cc: Christensen, Kim

Subject: Exide

Hi Nahal,

I hope you're well! You may have seen the stories the LA Times has written about Exide in Vernon over the last few weeks (and if you haven't, I can send them to you).

I understand from an EPA enforcement document that six of the company's seven operations nationwide are on an EPA list of chronically non-compliant facilities with regard to lead and/or arsenic emissions. Although DTSC and the AQMD regulate the Vernon plant, I know the EPA plays some role in oversight/regulation of some facilities elsewhere in the country and has periodically taken enforcement actions. Would it be possible to speak with someone about the EPA's role in those actions, and EPA enforcement of lead smelters in general? If possible, we'd like to speak with someone no later than end of the day Monday.

Thanks much,

Jessica Garrison

Times Staff Writer